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# AGAWAM

## Advertiser News

MARCH 6, 2014

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\$1.00



Daylight Saving  
Time Begins  
March 9

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**20 PAGES**

A TURLEY PUBLICATION

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# Students jump for heart health

By Mike Lydick  
*Turley Publications  
Correspondent*

After being squirted with 50 cans of Silly String by nearly 400 students, Joe Heney was covered in strands of brightly-colored, plastic string – and he was thrilled.

Passionate about helping families and children who have cardiovascular issues, the squirting of Silly String was one way Heney encouraged his physical education students at the Robinson Park Elementary School to participate in the American Heart Association's "Jump Rope for Heart."

During the month-long event, students learn jump-rope skills, focus on learning about the heart and heart health, and collect money to help children with heart problems. Each year for the past four years that the school has participated, Heney has offered a special challenge as an extra incentive for students to meet the school's fundraising goal. This year's challenge: Every student who donated could squirt him with Silly String.

### A triple challenge

As an added bonus, the two highest donors in grades K to 4

Please see HEART, page 10



Turley Publications photos by Mike Lydick

**Robinson Park Elementary School second-grader Donovan Salva creams physical education teacher Joe Heney as an incentive for raising money for the American Heart Association. Salva was the top fundraiser among students in grades K-4.**

## Cohen: Union contracts negotiated in good faith

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
*Turley Publications  
Correspondent*

AGAWAM – A swing vote went the union's way and two councilors changed their votes as the contracts for seven different Agawam town employee unions were funded by the Agawam City Council Monday night.

The contracts and subsequent funding resolutions were approved by the city council in a vote of 8-3 as the contracts came before them for the second time. The funding for the contracts was turned down when the council was deadlocked 5-5 on Jan. 21. Without a majority, the funding was defeated. Mayor Richard Cohen re-submitted the contracts after lawyers for the seven unions refused to renegotiate. After one appearance as new business on the agenda, the contracts came up for vote again on Feb. 18. The meeting was snowed out and postponed until Monday night.

Council President Christopher Johnson, Vice President Dennis Perry and Councilor Cecilia Calabrese maintained their dissenting votes while Councilors Robert Rossi and Donald Rheault changed their votes to favor the contracts. Councilor Gina Letellier was absent due to illness when the original vote occurred. She

voted in favor of the contracts citing the fact the school employees received the same raises proposed for the town employees.

"I believe it would be fundamentally unfair not to approve the contracts since the schools have already had their contracts approved," said Letellier.

Letellier did acknowledge that the city council attempted to limit the unions to a 1.5 percent raise for fiscal year 2014 by cutting funding from the salary reserve line item. Cohen claimed there are enough monies to fund the 2 percent raise negotiated by the unions, which is equal to the raises secured by school employees for this year.

The contract calls for 1.5 percent raises in 2015 and 2016. John Connor, an attorney for four of the seven unions, requested the council approve the contracts before the meeting, saying they risked facing litigation for violating Massachusetts General Law by trying to indirectly negotiate the contracts.

"We do have to think about the fact that the amount we set aside for the contract was exceeded," said Letellier.

Councilors Joseph Mineo, George Bitzas and Paul Cavallo all encouraged their fellow councilors to approve the contracts.

"It troubles me when the lawyers are saying they will sue us," said Bitzas. "The lawsuit will cost us more than the raises."

Mineo said he would again be

Please see UNION, page 6

## Agawam Family and Community Program reflects on past successes

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
*Turley Publications  
Correspondent*

AGAWAM – The Agawam Family and Community Program is continuing to gain interest as the program makes a shift from helping care providers to individual families.

Evidence of the increased interest was on display Monday night and last Friday night with events held in town.

Outreach Coordinator Michelle Connery said the program's latest event held on March 3 at the Agawam Public Library drew nearly

60 parents. The workshop titled "Anxiety and Your Child" attacked a growing issue in today's society. Connery says the workshop drew a lot of questions, and she and other parents learned much from it.

"No one can really point to a particular reason that this anxiety exists," said Conner. "But the rise can be partially attributed to children having a lot less downtime now. We also have more competition in school and sports. The culture has really changed."

The anxiety workshop followed a workshop held on Feb. 28 that featured two of the eight authors of the book "Just Ordinary Moms." The book is a compilation of real

stories told by different moms to help other moms feel less alone. Connery said the Agawam Family and Community Program aims to accomplish that particular goal.

"We want to provide parents and families with resources that will help them feel better about parenting," said Connery. "So many parents feel isolated and have questions. We want to use our programs to help empower them."

According to Connery, the program is striving to become an informational hub for current and future Agawam families with children ages birth through 13 years. They try to provide families with

See SUCCESSES, page 6

## Six Flags touts scholarship opportunity

By Mike Lydick  
*Turley Publications  
Correspondent*

Six Flags New England has provided fun and seasonal work for hundreds of Agawam High School students over the years. Now, it could become a destination for students considering a full-time career in the theme park industry.

This spring, the theme park in Agawam's backyard will award its first scholarships for AHS graduating seniors. The scholarships – each with a value of \$2,000 – were approved by the school



committee in late February. Scholarships will be awarded to two students planning careers in marketing, entertainment, hospitality or engineering. Selection

See SIX FLAGS, page 6

Turley Publications photo by Mike Lydick Jennifer McGrath, a 2004 AHS graduate, is now communications manager at Six Flags New England. She hopes a new scholarship program she helped to develop for AHS seniors will inspire students at her alma mater to pursue theme park careers.



8 0 4 8 7 9 1 3 1 7 6 2

## Glenmeadow Retirement to sponsor presentation on authentic leadership

AGAWAM – Glenmeadow Retirement will sponsor a workshop on authentic leadership on Tuesday, March 11, from 10 a.m. to noon at Agawam Public Library.

The workshop, "Authentic Leadership: The Principles Behind Becoming Whole and Taking Charge," will be offered by a husband-and-wife team of authors, Steven Mundahl and Sharon Massoth. They will share their own leadership expertise and passionate views on what it takes to become an authentic leader. The presentation will combine humorous self-disclosure with knowledge the two gained through writing their book, *The Alchemy of Authentic Leadership*. The workshop will help participants learn how to be better leaders, whether they run a family or a major corporation.

Mundahl is the president of Goodwill Industries of the Pioneer Valley and an adjunct professor in Bay Path College's Nonprofit Management Program; he has also authored several books. Massoth is a psychotherapist and intuitive business coach. She works with leaders nationally in the areas of authentic leadership and intuition for success. The couple lives in Suffield, Conn.



The free presentation will be held at Agawam Public Library at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

For more information or to enroll, contact Glenmeadow at (413) 567-7800 or email [learning@glenmeadow.org](mailto:learning@glenmeadow.org). Visit [glenmeadow.org/learning](http://glenmeadow.org/learning) for more information.

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## Regular School Committee meeting agenda

**Robert G. Doering School  
68 Main St.**

**Tuesday, March 11 – 7 p.m.**

1. Call to order
2. Executive session – 6:30 p.m. (Contract Negotiations)
3. Moment of silence
4. Roll call of attendance
5. Regular meeting – 7 p.m.
6. Citizen's Speak Time:
7. Highlights on Education
- a. "Jump Rope for Heart" charity drive
8. Superintendent's Notes
9. Student Advisory Committee representative update
10. Unfinished business:
  - a. SCR-14-06, Approval of use of AHS auditorium by The Mary Ann Studio of Dance for recital on June 19 and June 20, 2014
11. Business meeting:

- a. Routine matters
- 1) Approval of minutes
- 2) Calendar/Correspondence
- b. Warrants/Transfers
- c. Reports:
  - 1). Scheduled reports:
    - Special Education Program update
  - April Rist and Kimberly Cass
  - 2). Subcommittee updates
  12. New business:
    - a. SCR-14-08, Approval of AHS Band trip to Williamsburg, Virginia from April 24-28, 2014
    - b. SCR-14-09, Approval to authorize preparation of Statement of Interest for Agawam High School renovations
    - c. SCR-14-10, Approval to dedicate the AHS greenhouse in honor of founders Richard Borgatti, Harold Clark, and Julian Miodowski
  13. Any other items that may legally come before the committee
  14. Adjournment

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## WHERE IS IT?

Each week *Agawam Advertiser News* will feature a photo of a local building, item, sign, place or landmark and ask readers to pick their brains to figure out where it is or even what it is. Check here each week to test your knowledge of the area where we live and work. The photo will be from either Agawam or Feeding Hills, but we'll always give you a hint or two.

The answer to this week's "Where is it?" will run in next week's edition along with the name of the first person to submit a correct answer and a new trivia photo for you to consider.

E-mail answers or future Where Is It? suggestions to editor Jennifer Wroblewski at [jwroblewski@turley.com](mailto:jwroblewski@turley.com).

Turley Publications photo by Kimberly Hatch

You may have spotted this architectural feature if you attended Ash Wednesday services this week. Tell us, do you know where it's located?



Last week's photo: Jacqueline Prendergast correctly identified the working stiff outside Cecchi Farms on Springfield Street.

## Book-signing event to feature local author

Robert F. Hurley, of Agawam, the author of "Unlocking a Lasting Legacy...with Life Insurance" will be at Morning Star Christian Book & Music Store, located at 246 Memorial Ave., West Springfield, Friday, March 14, from 3 to 7 p.m. and Saturday, March 15, from noon to 7 p.m. for a book-signing event.

Hurley published his book with Abba Father Media, Inc., located in Agawam. He has drawn from his 30-plus years' experience in the financial products industry to bring together the desire of people to leave a financial legacy for their heirs with the unique use of life insurance to achieve it. This book

also depicts how providing an inheritance for heirs is spoken about and illustrated to us in the Bible. This book is the first of four financial books Hurley plans to publish this year.

A resident of Agawam for over 25 years, Hurley is a graduate of Cathedral High School and Western New England University. He and his wife, Kimberly, have been married for 26 years and have two daughters, Caitlin and Christa.

For more information, contact Hurley at [bumpga@gmail.com](mailto:bumpga@gmail.com) or call (413) 537-7951.

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**Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

## Fundraiser supports Eagle Scout candidate

Dan Robie, Agawam Troop 82 Eagle Scout candidate, is working on fundraising for his service project of building new team benches at St. John's Field in Agawam. In support of that effort, Dave's Soda and Pet City in Agawam will donate 2 percent of the proceeds from the purchase of anyone that brings a copy of this

article (Code FODBOY82) to the store at 51 Springfield St. in Agawam.

Monetary and/or in-kind donations may be sent to "Boy Scout Troop 82," c/o Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St., Agawam, MA 01001.

For more information, email: drobie11@comcast.net.

## AHS Counseling Bulletin

### College Acceptances:

Caitlin McCarthy: Hampshire College; Matthew Catjackis, Springfield Technical Community College; Mae Gomez: Old Dominion University, Roger Williams University, Westfield State University; Cody Janicki: Westfield State University; Daniel Jensen: UMASS Dartmouth, Western New England University, Worcester State University, Westfield State University, Endicott College, Bryant University; Mohammad Khan: Western New England University; Rebecca McKiernan: Salem State University; T.J. Lockwood: University of Rhode Island; Lauren Blanchard: Springfield Technical Community College, Westfield State University; Alexis Vecchiarelli: Worcester State University; Kerry DeForge: Worcester State University, Simmons College, Loyola University Chicago; Brooke Gamelli: New England College, Western New England University; Nolan Sheridan: University of Virginia, University of Rhode Island; Danielle Stratton: Worcester State University, Bridgewater State University, Endicott College; Joshua DeBarros: Westfield State University.

### Open Houses/Informational Session:

Many colleges are hosting events in the next few weeks. Check the counseling website for listings.

STCC Decision Day: STCC will hold

On-The-Spot Decision Day at AHS March 11. Interested applicants must sign up in the counseling office. Signed applications must be submitted that day. No application fee is needed.

**ACT's:** April 12 - sign up by March 7; June 14 - sign up by May 9.

**SAT's:** May 3 - sign up by April 4; June 7 - sign up by May 9.

Springfield National College Fair: Sunday, March 30, 1-4 p.m. at The Big E. Register [www.gotomyncf.com](http://www.gotomyncf.com). View a list of participating institutions by clicking on the college fair link on the same website. Check the list often for updates.

**Financial Aid:** American Student Assistance College Planning Centers offer free assistance with completing financial aid applications. Call (877) 332-4348 or visit [www.asa.org/plan](http://www.asa.org/plan) for assistance.

**Seniors:** Colleges/universities (4-year) are looking for your term 2 grades. Give Mrs. Ledger, counseling secretary, a regular-sized envelope with your name in the left hand corner, 1 stamp in the right hand corner and the address of each school you applied to for the end of this month. She will provide them with an updated transcript once grades are all set.

**Scholarships:** Check the counseling website for a list of available scholarships.

## Boldyga receives prestigious Legion award

The American Legion, District 3, held its annual awards ceremony Saturday, March 1, at the Chicopee Post to honor and award those in the community that have gone above and beyond to support veterans.

The event is held to recognize individuals that have made significant contributions to support the posts' mission. One of the most esteemed awards of the night, the Legislative Award, was given to state Rep. Nicholas Boldyga, R-Southwick, for his continuous efforts to raise community awareness and support for veterans in the community.

"We chose Rep. Boldyga as the recipient of this award for everything he does for our veterans and for his continued support of the Valor Act and Valor Act II," said Drew Pajak, sergeant at arms for the District 3 American Legion. "He is active and visible in the community when it comes to supporting veterans."

In the past two years, the Valor Act and the Valor Act II were signed into law by the Massachusetts legislature. The bills provide increased support for veteran-owned businesses, Gold Star Families, military children, and provide access to higher education. The



legislation works on many fronts to help veterans and active military members improve business, educational and housing opportunities. The legislation also removes certain educational obstacles by requiring the state's public institutions of higher learning to adopt new policies and procedures for awarding proper academic credit for a student's prior military training, coursework and experience.

"I am extremely proud to have been considered for the Legislative Award and it is a tremendous honor," said Boldyga. "The men and women who serve in our military have made enormous sacrifices for our country and to preserve our freedom. They have put their lives on the line to preserve our way of life and I will continue to support them as they return home."

The local American Legion Posts serve as a hallmark for community outreach and support. They have been instrumental in providing a venue for many organizations, individuals and youth to raise funds and bring awareness to local issues and worthy causes. They support the nearly 400,000 veterans currently residing in Massachusetts.

## Upcoming dinner to benefit 'Soldier On'

zation, [www.wesoldieron.org](http://www.wesoldieron.org).

Tickets, which are limited, may be reserved by calling Shawn at (413) 262-1726. Cost for adults and children over age 12 is \$10; seniors and children age 6 to 12, \$5; and free for children under 6. The public is invited to help make a difference for homeless veterans.

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# Opinion

## Surfing the remote access gray area

When an area school committee recently asked selectmen to approve remote meeting access via online realms for one of its members - a proposal that ultimately was defeated - it did so with the honest pursuit of helping keep meeting quorum and full panel participation high. However, such a decision if it were approved, comes with a whole host of challenges and slippery slopes to navigate.

Selectmen were right in refusing the request for now, and perhaps should study the issue closer and develop policy. We agree with the general consensus that if you seek elected or appointed office you should attend the meetings live. If you can no longer attend meetings regularly, you should resign and pursue a volunteer role that better fits your busy lifestyle.

That said, we do live in the 21st century and video/phone conferencing technology is used at most corporations and many smaller businesses. So what is stopping municipal boards and committees from doing the same thing, especially with state law on their side? Adding to advocacy for the law, fewer and fewer residents are volunteering or receiving small stipends to serve on municipal boards and committees. No doubt one of the top reasons for this negative trend is job relocation/travel and loss of family time. So the argument for more remote access is tempting.

The state's open public meeting law amended for this technology in November 2011 dictates acceptable means of remote participation to include telephone, Internet, or satellite enabled audio or video conferencing, or any other technology that enables the remote participant and all persons present at the meeting location to be clearly audible to one another. These allowances seem exciting and cutting edge on the surface, but quickly become murkier in the depths of public service.

The state law is simply flawed in its specificity. What we disagree with is consistent or routine absences from board meetings by members who instead would utilize remote online participation rights. It is far too easy for this to become a bad habit and lazy way of participating. It would also be difficult to



discern if the remote board member is actually out of town on business or an emergency, or relaxing in pajamas on his or her own couch. This is gray area in the current state law, which only states that "geographic distance" be one of six factors in its allowance.

The state law or perhaps amended local policy should be a lot more specific than that in terms of how many remote access requests are allowed per year. And who pays for the Internet or phone line bills?

Our other point is if a school committee

or planning board member misses 25 live meetings but chimes in online for those sessions, would that somehow be OK with townspeople? No, it would not. The main reason for this is taxpayers and voters put people into office so they can access them live at meetings whenever they want - not talk to a laptop screen or speakerphone. Mannerisms, body language and eye contact are all critical tools in the deliberation process of municipal boards. And so is a firm handshake. That is all lost with remote access that becomes the norm.

If interested in adopting the state law, selectmen, town council, mayors or chief executive officers are required to implement remote participation access across all boards and committees. They cannot make an exception just for one person or board. The challenge is many towns and small cities are still unprepared to make this jump in terms of technology and expense. The law is still remote in its language and needs refinement either at the state level or locally with board governance bylaws.

## Letters to the Editor

### Great time had by all at dinner dance

#### To the editor:

I want to thank the Agawam Advertiser News for the wonderful spread of pictures for the Valentine Dinner Dance held Friday, Feb. 21, at the Agawam Senior Center. This dinner dance was sponsored by the Friends of the Agawam Senior Center.

I want to thank chef Carol Bernazki for the great dinner she prepared. I also want to thank JoAnn Balakier, Mariann Kinney, Helen Fontaine, Pat Murphy, Barbara Machietto, Joan Linnehan (director) and Kristina Lynch (assistant director) for the wonderful decorations at the tables and dining area.

Also, thanks to the folks who did a great job serving the food to those in attendance, including JoAnn Balakier, Mariann Kinney, Barbara Machietto, Pat Murphy, Brendalee Brown, Tina Belcher, Joan Linnehan and Jessie Bernier.

Everyone had a great time dancing and listening to the music provided by Richie Mitnick.

J. Emile Coté  
Chairman

### Resident urges support for neglected animals

#### To the editor:

Three weeks ago, two stories aired from out of Ludlow regarding two separate incidences of animal cruelty and neglect. The story of Scrunchie, the little dog that was beaten by his owner, received an outpouring of support from the public. Happily, the little dog recovered and has been adopted by one of the officers that rescued him.

The other story, that of approximately 36 animals that were left out in the cold with no food, water or shelter, has not received as much publicity. It was mentioned that those animals were taken by the Boston Rescue League; however the majority of those animals were actually taken to the MSPCA at Nevin's Farm in Methuen. As its name implies, Nevin's Farm takes in farm animals that are abused or neglected, or those that people can no longer care for. The staff works to rehabilitate the animals so they may be adopted into loving homes. Since rescuing these animals, the staff has been providing love, care and much-needed food, wa-

ter and medical treatment. Some of the animals are experiencing neurological problems and diabetes due to their extended time without adequate food or water. Sadly, one of the ponies died last night.

I am writing today to ask for any help for these animals. The expense in caring for them is huge, and the MSPCA is a non-profit organization. They have taken in these animals and are working tirelessly to restore their health and give them a second chance at life. If you would like to help, the address is MSPCA at Nevin's Farm, Attn: Ashton's Fund, 400 Broadway, Methuen, MA 01844-2052. Thank you!

Maggie McCarthy  
Agawam



Letters to the Editor must include a name, address, and daytime telephone number for author verification purposes. We do not publish anonymous letters. All letters are subject to editing for content and space. The deadline is Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. Please send letters to Agawam Advertiser News, Letters to the Editor, Attn: Teri Machia, 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030 or e-mail [aan@turley.com](mailto:aan@turley.com).

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# Families

## Tickets available for St. Pat's dinner

The Agawam St. Patrick's Committee will hold its annual corned beef and cabbage dinner Wednesday, March 12, from 5-7 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, located at 945 Main St.

Tickets, which are \$12 per person, are available by contacting Nicole Bertera at (413) 535-4022 or Kerri O'Connor at (413)

575-3582. The event will also include a 50/50 and Chinese raffle. Featured guests will be Kelly Theriault, the 2014 Colleen, and court members Laurne Malone, Jordyn Conway, Kelly DeForge, Hannah McCluskey and Mary Katherine Reidy.

The community is invited to celebrate this Irish tradition of good food and fellowship.

## Winter blues? Take a day trip or two

**O**kay, I have officially joined the "I can't wait for winter to end" bandwagon. We've all heard the jokes: "The kids will be having the Easter egg hunt in their snowsuits" or "we'll be going to school until July." I have reached the point of being un-amused. In order to save our sanity, we have to see a glimmer of spring. Somewhere, anywhere. A few maple sap taps would do it. Or how about the sight of a red-winged blackbird, snowdrop or other harbinger? If there is no such vision on your horizon, head inside where the sights and fragrances of spring will be sure to get you over the last winter hurdle.

First stop is the Boston Flower and Garden Show, running March 12 to 16 at the Seaport World Trade Center, Boston. The theme for this year's show is "Romance in the Garden." It will be reflected in the gardens, displays and presentations of the exhibitors. I just love some of the ideas the committee has come up with. Professional florists are invited to participate in the "Tour de Romance" in which the bicycle is the container, the canvas and the inspiration for their floral arrangements. How fun! Another interesting display is called the "Garden of Cakes," in which Boston's best special event bakers will delight you with their artistry. One resource described it fittingly: "sweet tooth meets green thumb." Finally, exhibitors are asked to create small, stand-alone gardens that are inspired from a specific book, movie or song in the small garden vignette category entitled "Amore Al Fresco."

There will also be numerous lectures and demonstrations happening over the five-day show, inspired by the theme of romance. Several sounded appealing. From "Opposites Attract: Using Contrast to Create Dynamic Gardens and Containers" to "Falling Back in Love with Your Tomatoes" and "Cooking with Honey," there is something of interest for every gardener in attendance. If you have a knack for floral design, consider taking a mini-workshop with the Cass School of Floral Design. No interest in schooling? Tour the exhibitor's marketplace for great, garden related

tools, gadgets and gifts. For more information on the Boston Flower and Garden Show log on to [www.bostonflowershow.com](http://www.bostonflowershow.com).

The Smith College Bulb Show - "In the Pink," is running now through March 16 at the Lyman Plant House on campus in Northampton. For over a hundred years, the greenhouse has been opening its doors to folks that are ready to leave winter behind. Knowing what it takes to "force" bulbs into bloom, and in unison no less makes me appreciate the extravagance of it all the more. The show is open to the general public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily with extended Friday hours on March 7 and 14 from 4 to 8 p.m. A \$2 donation is suggested.

I wrote about Magic Wings Butterfly Conservatory in South Deerfield just a year ago, but it has really become a favorite family day trip. It's always fun to check out the cool frogs and bugs upon entering the facility. The real fun though, begins when you pass through the set of double doors and head into the conservatory. On our last visit we had arrived early, and admittedly, the butterflies were on the quiet side. A few were fluttering around, and others were pausing on their favorite flowers for a sip of nectar. After the sun began to drench the surroundings it became more like a scene out of the movie "Birds" with so many flapping wings up and above your head - it was truly amazing.

Magic Wings Butterfly Conservatory and Gardens is located in South Deerfield and is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Memorial Day Weekend. For more information consult their website at [www.magicwings.com](http://www.magicwings.com).

Soon enough, this winter will be but a memory; one I'd like to forget.

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 24 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food, as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to dfarmer@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*



ROBERTA MCQUAID  
TURLEY PUBLICATIONS  
COLUMNIST

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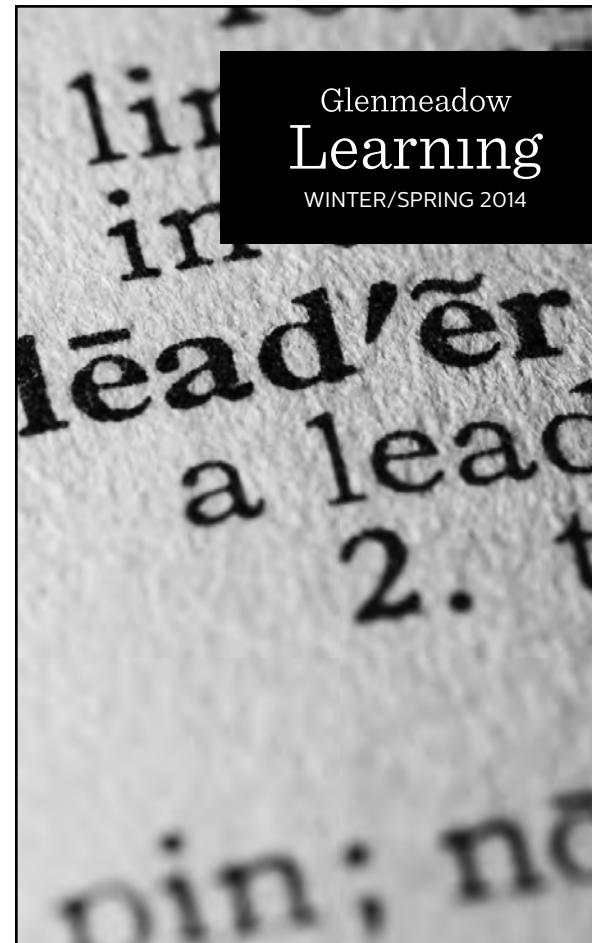
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**Snow date: Tuesday, March 18.** Programs are free and open to the public, but space is limited. For information or to enroll, call 413.567.7800 or e-mail [learning@glenmeadow.org](mailto:learning@glenmeadow.org). Visit [glenmeadow.org/learning](http://glenmeadow.org/learning).



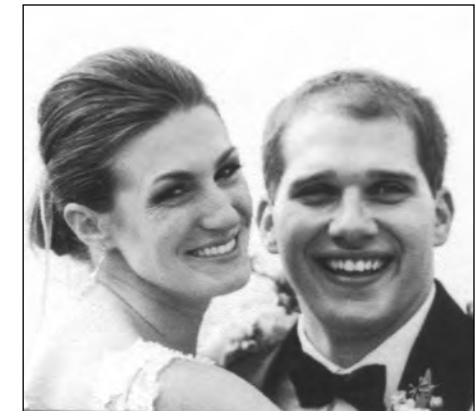
# wedding announcement

## Christina DiPietro, Scott Huangs exchange vows

Christina Elizabeth DiPietro and Scott John Huangs were married Oct. 5, 2013, at an afternoon ceremony held at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Saint Mary Parish, Worcester. Following a 5 p.m. reception at Worcester Airport, the couple boarded a flight to Aruba, their honeymoon destination. They presently reside in Boston.

Christina is a graduate of Notre Dame Academy in Worcester and Syracuse University in New York. She is the interior designer at Highland Real Estate Development in Weston. She is the granddaughter of Gloria DiPietro, of Agawam, and the late Attorney Andrew McCarthy and Elizabeth McCarthy, of Worcester.

Scott is the son of Sally and John Huangs, of Rochester, N.Y. A graduate of Saint Michael's College in Vermont, he is a trading specialist at Mortgage Real Estate Investment Trust in Boston.



Turley Publications courtesy photo

Christina E. DiPietro and Scott J. Huangs

## Boy Scout fundraiser and recruitment

FEEDING HILLS – Boy Scout Troop 77 is having a fundraiser March 7-9 at The Ice Cream Shoppe, 493 Springfield Street, in Feeding Hills. The Shoppe will be open 2-8 p.m. each day and a percentage of the ice cream sales for the weekend will be donated to the troop. Please come and enjoy a delicious ice cream and support a worthy local group of boys.

Boy Scout Troop 77 and Cub Scout Pack 77 will also be holding recruitment during the fundraiser on Saturday, March 8, from 2-5 p.m. Pack 77 and Troop 77 are chartered with St. John the Evangelist Church located on Main Street in Agawam.

The Cub Scout Pack is available to boys

who are in the first grade up to boys in the fifth grade. Boy Scouting, one of the traditional membership divisions of the BSA, is available to boys who have earned the Arrow of Light Award and are at least 10 years old or have completed the fifth grade and are at least 10, or who are 11, but not yet 18 years old. The program achieves the BSA's objectives of developing character, citizenship, and personal fitness.

Both the Pack and the Troop are a part of the Western Massachusetts Council, which serves over 7,000 young people and over 2,000 adult volunteers in Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire Counties of Western Massachusetts.

## Tickets available for Junior Women's fashion show

The GFWC Agawam Junior Women's Club will host its annual Runway for Education Fashion Show Sunday, April 6, at Chez Josef in Agawam. This year's models will be wearing fashions from Chico's at the Holyoke Mall and Westfield's Dress Barn. Hair-styles will be the designs of the stylists from Salon 322 in Feeding Hills.

The doors will open at 10 a.m. for the vendor showcase and raffle sales. Brunch will be served at noon followed by the fashion

show. Reserved seating will be accepted with payment by March 24. Tickets are \$34 each. To reserve tickets, call Christina Beauchemin at (413) 427-8784. Tables of 10 are available.

All proceeds from the fashion show will benefit the education programs and scholarships sponsored by the Agawam Junior Women's Club, a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

# Seniors

## Agawam Senior Center

### Weekly calendar of events

Monday, March 10: 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga; 9:30 a.m., Painting Club, Line Dancing; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., Bingo; 3 p.m., First Senior Theater Meeting; 4 p.m., Tap Class; 5 p.m., Zumba.

Tuesday, March 11: 9 a.m., S.H.I.N.E. (by appt.), Exercise, Knitting, Sewing; 10 a.m., PACE, Computer Tech. Club; 12:30 p.m., Ladies Billiards, Mah Jongg, Movie ("The Butler"); 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 2:30 p.m., Chorus; 4:30 p.m., Yoga; 6 p.m., Beginner Line Dance; 6:30 p.m., Evening Sewing Class.

Wednesday, March 12: 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Scrabble, Ballroom Lessons; 1:30 p.m., Golden Agers Chapter 1 Meeting; 5 p.m., Zumba, St. Pat's Comm. Corned Beef Dinner.

Thursday, March 13: 8 a.m.-Noon, Tax Prep. (by appt.); 9 a.m., Exercise; 9:30 a.m., Quilting; 10 a.m., Line Dancing; 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Pitch, Open Art Class; 2 p.m., Melody Band Practice; 6:30 p.m., Pitch.

Friday, March 14: 9:15 a.m., Oil Painting; 9:30 a.m., Tai Chi; 11:15 a.m., Yoga; Noon, Canasta; 1 p.m., Pitch, Cribbage; 5 p.m., Zumba.

## Notes from the Music Room

By Darcy Davis

Before we go into some songs from Irving Berlin's Show, "This Is the Army," the Agawam Senior Center chorus will spend a little time with some other very popular songs by this great composer of memorable music. These include, "It's A Lovely Day Today," "You



Keep Coming Back Like a Song," and "Something to Dance About."

In past years, the chorus has done songs by Jerome Kern, Richard Rodgers, George Gershwin, Cole Porter and Harry Warren. Irving Berlin wrote so many, it is taking us an extra year to even begin to cover them all, and we are far from doing that.

## Cohen: Union contracts negotiated in good faith

### UNION, from page 1

supporting the contract funding because he believed the contracts were fair and negotiated properly.

The contracts were approved for the following unions: Agawam Police Supervisors Association, Agawam Clerical Employee's Association, Agawam Department of Public Works Employee's Association, Agawam Police Patrolman's Association, Agawam Building Maintenance Association, Agawam Administrative Unions, and the AFL-CIO Local 1973 Firefighters' Association.

More than 40 town employees representing the various unions were present at the meeting and applauded the councilors who spoke in their favor. They also applauded the approval vote for their contracts.

Cohen said he was pleased the council approved the contracts.

"I'm pleased the collective bargaining agreements were finally passed by the council as they were negotiated in good faith and fairly," said Cohen. "It was the correct thing to do. Town employees work hard, as does our school personnel, and are as deserving."

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## Agawam Family and Community Program reflects on past successes

### SUCCESES, from page 1

access to high-quality education/care programs, create opportunities where parents can spend quality time engaging with their children, build early and family literacy skills, and host events that allow parents the time to build social connections.

Last year, the program successfully hosted kindergarten socials, a Parent Café, storywalks, story times and parent education events, as well as implemented a home lending library, distributed hundreds of free books and provided children the opportunity to create their own family memory book.

Future events include additional Parent Cafes and parent educational events, a series of Parent-Child Date Nights and the 3rd annual Early Childhood Informational Fair. The first of the Parent-Child Date Nights will be held on Thursday, March 20, at the Agawam Public Library. The date night is a one-to-one opportunity for an individual

parent to have focused time with their child. Limited spots are still open for registration for the date night. Interested people can call Connery at (413) 821-0597.

The informational fair is coming up on Saturday, March 29, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Agawam High School cafeteria. Connery said the fair has the potential to be the biggest the program has had.

"It's going to be a great event, and we already have 40 vendors scheduled," said Connery.

There will be demonstrations from the Agawam Fire Department, the Agawam Public Library and Music Speaks.

Funding for the Agawam Family & Community Program is provided by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education & Care through the Coordinated Family & Community Engagement (CFCE) Grant. Agawam has had the grant for the past 15 years.

## Six Flags offers scholarship opportunity

### SIX FLAGS, from page 1

will be based on academic excellence, participation in extracurricular activities and community involvement.

Jennifer McGrath, communications manager for the park, said Six Flags New England is the first of the company's 18 amusement parks to offer an external scholarship that doesn't require students to be employed at Six Flags.

"Our other properties do work with surrounding schools, but being a Six Flags Team member is a requirement," she explained.

McGrath said when she and the other members of park's leadership team developed the Agawam scholarship last fall they modeled it after the internal scholarship program.

### Eligibility and criteria

Only students who are AHS seniors enrolled in a two- or four-year accredited college or university beginning this September who are pursuing careers in marketing, entertainment, hospitality or engineering are eligible for the scholarship.

Scholarship recipients will be selected using a criteria that includes academic achievement, involvement in extracurricular activities (National Honor Society, scouting, sports, music and fine arts, student government, etc.), and participation in philanthropy and/or volunteerism activities. Applications, which are available at the high school, must be submitted by May 15 to McGrath at Six Flags New England, 1623 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

"I have no idea how many students will apply," said McGrath. "I think it will be hard to pick the final two." She said the \$4,000 total scholarship funds for 2014 could change after this year. "We decided to try the first year with two students at \$2,000 each. That was comfortable for us, but we would love to grow the scholarship in the future."

The scholarship is one of several community outreach initiatives the park is planning during 2014 to assist the town.

"We want to grow closer with the community in Agawam and continue to build a better relationship between Six Flags and the town. We also believe the scholarship will help support the education of future leaders within our community," McGrath said.

### Job shadowing bonus

McGrath said students selected for the

scholarships will get more than just a check to help them pay for tuition at the colleges of their choice. Both recipients will also get to spend one day in the park in June or July job shadowing a Six Flags "team member" performing work in the field that they are pursuing.

The job shadowing will give the recipients "hands-on experience" for a day and show them the theme park world and what it can offer in terms of a career, said McGrath. She said it would involve a full day at the park, exposing scholarship recipients to Six Flag New England's team leaders, rubbing elbows and networking with professionals in their career fields, and getting a close-up look at the variety of activities that occur daily at the park.

"We want them to experience as much as they can. We will show them what an actual day is like. They may even get spoiled and go on some of the rides, so they should be prepared to learn and have fun," she added.

### Industry of fun and entertainment

Recipients will not be required to work at a Six Flags park or even within the theme park industry. However, McGrath said a goal of the scholarship program and the job-shadowing day is to educate recipients about what she calls "incredible career opportunities" within the theme park industry.

"Perhaps we can spark an interest within these young and talented students to join the industry of fun and entertainment," said McGrath. "We'd also love to get some feedback from them about their job-shadowing experience."

A 2004 graduate of AHS, McGrath (formerly Schaebler) became communications manager at the park a year ago after working in a variety of different park positions and serving as an intern while in college. She had planned a broadcast media career, but theme parks got into her blood.

"I've always loved theme parks and the entertainment industry since I was very young. I could never see myself doing anything else. It's an incredible work environment that is high energy, fast-paced and lots of fun," added McGrath.

AHS Principal Steve Lemanski said the scholarship is a "great opportunity" for students. McGrath hopes it will "inspire" seniors at her alma mater to also consider a career in "the industry of fun."

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# In the Classroom

## Agawam Schools' weekly lunch menu

### AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

The Agawam High School lunch menu is posted on the school's website.

### AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, March 10: Baked chicken sticks with dipping sauce, mashed potatoes, seasoned green beans, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, March 11: Nachos, steamed white rice, corn, fresh and chilled fruit, corn muffin.

Wednesday, March 12: Whole-wheat buttered noodles with meat sauce on the side, breadstick, Italian mixed vegetables, fresh and chilled fruit.

Thursday, March 13: Cheeseburger on a roll with lettuce and tomatoes, baked potato wedges, vegetable, fresh and chilled fruit.

Friday, March 14: French bread pizza, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cake.

### ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL

Monday, March 10: Baked chicken sticks with dipping sauce, mashed potatoes, seasoned green beans, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, March 11: Nachos, steamed white rice, corn, fresh and chilled fruit, corn muffin.

Wednesday, March 12: Whole-wheat buttered noodles with meat sauce on the side, breadstick, Italian mixed vegetables, fresh and chilled fruit.

Thursday, March 13: Chicken patty on a roll with condiments, Smart Food popcorn, three-bean salad, fresh and chilled fruit.

Friday, March 14: French bread pizza, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cake.

### AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Monday, March 10: Baked chicken sticks with dipping sauce, mashed potatoes, seasoned green beans, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, March 11: Nachos, steamed white rice, corn, fresh and chilled fruit, corn muffin.

Wednesday, March 12: Whole-wheat buttered noodles with meat sauce on the side, breadstick, Italian mixed vegetables, fresh and chilled fruit.

Thursday, March 13: Chicken patty on a roll with condiments, Smart Food popcorn, three-bean salad, fresh and chilled fruit.

Friday, March 14: French bread pizza, salad with lite dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cake.

## 'Mighty Mechanics' gear up for state competition

Agawam's FIRST FTC Robotics, "MIGHTY Mechanics," demonstrated their robot at the Ronald McDonald House of Springfield and Heritage Hall in Agawam in preparation for state competition scheduled for March 8.

This outreach engagement did more than entertain. It provided awareness and involvement at two local community establishments, one for children and families who stay at the Ronald McDonald House, and a visit at Heritage Hall Nursing Home where elderly people circled the room where the robot paraded.

Offering entertainment was the foot in the door for the MIGHTY Mechanics students as they spoke about their robot-building journey and took turns sharing the process to the point where the team has a robot ready to compete. The team hopes to move on from the Mass. State Championships to the Super Regional located in York, Penn., and to the World Championships in St. Louis, Mo.

During the Ronald McDonald House visit, the team set up the robot, displayed the recently-earned "Think Award," described their "design and build" journey, and let some of the resident children use the remote control to drive the robot in the main living room.

At the visit to Heritage Hall, the Mechanics assembled the robot, prepared it for demonstration, exhibited the award, and spoke to the large group of about 25 seniors circled around for the show.

The March 8 competition will be held at Bridgewater State University.

In addition to robot-building and driving fun, the purpose of the club is to help students get a hands-on experience with real-life challenges that employees and employers face in the science, technology and manufacturing fields. However, many other business-oriented experiences prevail, including marketing, administration, sales activities and more, all helping students gain career knowledge.

FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics is a program for students in grade 7-12. In this program, each year students are faced with a certain goal for the games staged by FIRST robotics worldwide organization. The MIGHTY Mechanics were challenged with a "Block Party!" game. The goal was to build a robot that could deposit blocks in buckets on a pendulum, turn a wheel to raise a flag, and include a mechanism to raise the robot off the ground onto a pull up bar.

## Campus Notes...

Westfield State University: Ashley Balboni, Shawn Blanchard, Brett Barker, Albert Breault, Christopher Brooks, Ashley Carmel, Kelsey Caroleo, Jennifer Casinghino, Peter Chlastawa, Jessica Corriveau, Brittany Cross, Thaddeus Dobek, Timothy Dobek, Gregory Donaldson, Nicholas Ferreira, Samantha Hurley, Sara Jensen, Daniel Johnson, Whitney Johnson, Kyle Johnston, Nida Khan, Jessica Kierla, Kelly LeGrand, Michael Lovely, Benjamin Parzich, Vincent Perreault, Luda Polevoy, Dianne Robare, Sergiy Sukhyna, Bao Tran, Olivia Tufts, Kristopher Wilson and John Yourous, of Agawam; and Spenser Afonso, Angela Almquist, Keven Brown, Sean Casey, Tyler Choquette, Paige

Circosta, Michael Cotto, Carolyn Donahue, Alyssa Doyle, Carole Duquette, Jessica Friedrich, Sarah Gallagher, Jonathan Gardner, Lucas Giusto, Michael Gonthier, Jennifer Goodyear, Jacob Goudreau, Michael Kosior, Jacob Lehan, Thomas Lemay, Jamie Litchfield, Alexis Lussier, Rebecca Mastronardi, Kate May, Katelyn Messier, Luke Miranda, Nicholas Noto, Patrick O'Brien, Nicole Ouimette, Ryan Rackliffe, Khalid Shehemi, Alexa Smith, Nicholas Taliceo, Maddison Uzar and Andrew Zhupikov, of Feeding Hills; and Ashley Monahan, of Springfield, an Agawam High School graduate, were named to the fall semester dean's list.

## Parent Information Night for upcoming kindergarteners

The Agawam Public Schools will host a Parent Information Night Thursday, March 13, at 6 p.m. at Benjamin J. Phelps School, 689 Main St. Parents of all children entering kindergarten in September are invited to attend.

The program is offered to answer ques-

tions parents might have about their child entering school in September. Children who will be 5 years old prior to Sept. 1 are eligible for kindergarten.

For more information, contact Christine Costello at the Early Childhood Center at 821-0597.

## Storowton Village Museum to host Maple Harvest Day

WEST SPRINGFIELD – Storowton Village Museum's eighth annual Maple Harvest Day event takes place Sunday, March 16, and will showcase the history and lore of maple sugaring in the Gilbert Farmstead's front yard.

Inside the historic home, docents will demonstrate 19th-century open hearth cooking at the cozy kitchen fireplace as well as quilting and spinning wool. A selection of gifts, maple-themed items and cookbooks will be sold nearby. The free event takes place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The West Springfield Lions Club will host a pancake breakfast from 10 a.m. to noon for

\$5 per person. All proceeds will be donated to Storowton Village Museum's educational programs.

Storowton Tavern will host a Sunday brunch in the Carriage House from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. with special pricing for Maple Harvest Day: \$18 for adults; \$10 for children. Reservations are recommended and may be made by calling (413) 732-4188. One dollar of each ticket will be donated to the Village's programs.

For more information on this and other Storowton Village events, visit TheBigE.com or call (413) 205-5051.

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# In the Classroom

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Erin Berthiaume  
Shannon Billick  
Molly Breton  
Nina Bruno  
Alina Bubuza  
Makayla Campelo  
Sydney Carra  
Troy Carroll  
Ethan Casey  
Ethan Chan  
Alexandra Cichetti  
Anna Colfer  
Jordyn Comtois  
MaryEllen Conway  
Bianca Culhane  
Joseph Cuzzone  
Colin Czepak  
Matthew Dagenais  
Mary D'Angelo  
Xhy-Y Dao  
Elisabeth Davydov  
Sophia De Cesare  
Frank Dejkus  
Francesco DeMaio  
Richard Dialessi  
Mollie Dion  
Tina Dong  
Samantha Downs  
Madison Dube  
Allyson Dubiel  
Courtney Fallon  
Zachary Fiedler  
Patrick Fisk  
Jessica Fontaine  
Lizclariane Franqui  
Jenna Gamelli  
Juste Gavelte  
Meghan Gendron  
Alann Giberson-Acevedo  
Katelyn Grasso  
Alyssa Gravel  
Amber Gray  
Collette Groux

Ryan Haines  
Miranda Harpin  
Abigail Heinemann  
Aimee Heinze  
Thomas Hendrickson  
Stephanie Herring  
Ian Higgins  
Caroline Hitchcock  
Garrett Hollander  
Katie Hrynewicz  
Malvina Hrytskevich  
Nathaniel Humphries  
Kaitlyn-ann Inton  
Daniel Ireland  
Lyubislav Ivanov  
Sierra Jones  
Ilya Kaletin  
Brian Keefe  
Kaila Keene  
Jonathan Kelley  
Ji-Sun Kim  
Colin Knowlton  
Lyuba Kodreanu  
Lydia Koury  
Preston Kozub  
Sierra Kruser  
Ashley Krzykowski  
Glenn Lane Jr  
Carly Laskowski  
Erin Lavoie  
Kevin Lecuyer  
Matthew Lockwood  
Jose Lopez  
Hailey Lyne  
Kevyn Martins  
Jenna Matuza  
Ashleigh Merriam  
Jasmine Micks  
Brooke Miller  
Maria Moccio  
Tytu Moen  
Bradley Montanez  
Veronica Moore  
Christopher Morassi  
Troy Near  
Darlene Nguyen  
Luis Nieves  
Jared Nigro  
Shaun Noonan  
Michaela Normand  
Paul Oberheim  
Melanie Ortiz  
Alessio Papallo  
Foram Patel  
Rachel Pellegrini  
Nicolas Pietroniro  
Anastasiya Pirogova  
Anna Pirogova  
Cody Plankey  
Matthew Plasse  
Maximilian Posnik  
Madeleine Provost  
Jocelyn Quinn  
Giovanna Recchia  
Emma-lee Rivet  
Derek Rogers  
Matthew Rolland  
Mary Root  
Samantha Rubacha  
Kayla Rufo  
Snizhana Salagornik  
Karleigh Schuhlen  
William Schwarz IV  
Brian Scoville  
Tatyana Shostak  
Timothy Slietch  
Mohammed Soffan  
Samantha Stratton  
Kyle Szczepanek  
Nicholas Tausendfreund  
Gino Tedeschi  
Kevin Thompson  
Bianca Toto  
Hai Tran

Viktor Vasilchenko  
Jessica Vaughn  
Jeremy Venne  
Alice Verbetsky  
Katalina Wallace  
Kathryne Watkins  
Michael Werbiskis IV  
Kyle Widmer  
Allie Wysocki  
Roman Yusenko  
Anastasiya Zabedyuk

### GRADE 10

Victoria Abramchuk  
Martie Faye Agravante  
Paige Alves  
Alexander Amato  
Alec Ardolino  
Emma Armfield  
Cassandra Ayre  
Allyson Balboni  
John Baranov  
Cameron Barrington  
Tyler Barrington  
Jenna Beach  
Maggie Belanger  
Jenna Bonasoni  
Kyle Bosse  
Sabrina Budington  
Laura Cafaro  
Kayla Casamento  
Renata Chebanova  
Marino Cipriani  
Geoffrey Circosta  
Matthew Clarke  
Matthew Conway  
Kellie Cormier  
Nicole Covill  
Meghan D'Amours  
Kayla DeBarros  
Maggie DeForge  
Angelina Derose  
Christophori Dowd  
Morgan Durocher  
Nicholas Fenney  
Ryan Feyre  
Alfredo Franqui  
Jordan Frazee  
Madison Gabel  
Danielle Gagnon  
Troy Gallerani  
Abigail Garner  
Brendan Garvey  
Daniel Garvey  
Devin Gates  
Daphne Gauthier  
Katelynn Gordner  
Grace Greene  
Amanda Guerette  
Alexander Gut  
Veronica Hardy  
Bryce Hatch  
Alexis Horniak  
Thomas Howard V  
Tyler Howe  
Lilia Iovenco  
Rachel Jurkowski  
Pavel Kaletin  
Hannah Kresock  
Alexis Kupiec  
Amberly La Branche  
Elizabeth LaCroix  
Justin Laflamme  
Conner Lajoie  
Isabel Lamkins  
Brian LaMotte  
Rachel Lappone  
Gabrielle Lescarbeau  
Steven Lutcke  
Connor Mahoney  
Todd Maniscalchi  
Savannah Marcotte  
Gabrielle Martin  
Jaime Martinez  
Margaret Mendoza  
Cassidy Milliken  
Karly Milne  
Christie Mirski  
Joseph Moccio  
Roman Mokan  
Bryanna Montalvo  
Nathan Morrie  
Lillian Mosiychuk  
Julia Nadolny  
Tara Negrucci  
Vita Nesen  
Sydney O'Keefe

### GRADE 11

Drew Pahl  
John Passerini  
Riley Pearson  
Gianna Perella  
Alexander Peterson  
Duncan Phillips  
Helen Phu  
Alison Renaud  
Lydia Riccio  
Joselyn Rivera  
Paul Rivera  
Kelly Roberts  
David Rodriguez  
Tristin Romano  
Jennifer Rossi  
Veronica Rovatti  
Keith Ruby  
Zachary Sawyer  
Jillian Scherpa  
Melissa Schuler  
Anthony Sciartelli  
Nicholas Scuderi  
Austin Seng  
Julia Serra  
Steven Stagnaro  
Keandria Sussman  
Victoria Sutherland  
Samantha Swistak  
Victoria Thomas  
Nicholas Weyant  
Allison Wheeler  
Emily Whitman  
Laura Wynne  
Vladimir Zabedyuk  
Nick Zaporozhchenko

### GRADE 12

Alec Iannuzzi  
Emily Jabry  
Emily Jefferson  
Taylor Karet  
James Karl-Morin  
Brodie Keene  
Dominic Kosior  
Haley Kozlak  
Carly LaBelle  
Casandra Land  
Christopher LaZazzera  
Jeffrey Leclerc  
Kristina Lemire  
Tyler Loubier  
Braden Lucia  
Jordan Lunden  
Viktoria Maklakova  
Khouloud Mandour  
Raffaele Manzi  
Taylor Marcotte  
Matthew Marian  
Kaitlyn Martin  
Stephen Mateus  
Kyla McGurn  
Joseph Mercadante  
Marissa Miller  
Irina Mita  
Makenna Moen  
Rylie Molloy  
Sean Monahan  
Melissa Montagna  
Ann Mozzer  
Emily Murphy  
Jesse Near  
Jaclyn Neilsen  
Gianna Nettis  
Erblina Nuhiu  
Vincent Panuccio  
Aliaksandra Papova  
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Cory Pfau  
Michael Pfau  
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Megan Phu  
Michael Potter  
Jared Ravizza  
Jordan Reed  
Michael Reed  
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Joseph Thresher  
Christina Verbitsky  
Ellen Vyce  
Lindsey Wassung  
Ashley Webster  
Macklen Wier  
Eric Wolowicz  
Philip Woods  
Christopher Wyckoff  
Zachary Wysocki

### GRADE 12

Alexander Ablianitis  
Nedime Ahmeti  
Liam Anderson  
Adam Ardolino  
Anna Baranov  
Philip Bazukin  
Rachel Beusee-Kauffman  
Lauren Blanchard  
Merisa Boyd  
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Hayley Burbank  
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Zunaira Butt  
Meaghan Casey  
Sydney Cassell  
Benjamin Cassidy

Samantha Ceccarini  
Megan Cecchi  
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Erika Lamagdeleine  
Miranda Lanza  
Justin Lecuyer  
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Ashley Lockwood  
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Kate Moriarty  
Kristina Mozolevskaya  
Christine Nagel  
Alana Natale  
Casey Noonan  
Shayla Olson  
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Wade Robidoux  
Ryan Rogalski  
Melissa Rolland  
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## 'Give Back Monday' to benefit senior center

The Friends of the Agawam Senior Center invite the public to E.B.'s Restaurant, 385 Walnut St. Ext., Agawam, Monday, March 31, to take part in "Give Back Monday."

Ten percent of the day's total food sales

will be given to the Friends organization to help raise money to repair or replace old equipment at the Senior Center. This will include dine-in, take-out, and delivery, from open to close at E.B.'s. Alcohol sales are not included.

## Scholarships available for journalism students

SPRINGFIELD – The Valley Press Club will award up to six scholarships of \$1,000 each in June to high school seniors in Western Massachusetts and Northern Connecticut planning careers in journalism.

Primary emphasis is placed on career goals, writing ability, scholastic aptitude and overall achievement as measured by an applicant's high school transcript, class rank, academic awards, SAT scores and extracurricular activities.

The deadline for submitting applications is April 1, according to Noreen Tassinari, Scholarship Committee chair.

Funds for one of this year's scholarships was donated by Al Jaffe, who was the Press Club's first scholarship winner in 1964. Jaffe, currently a vice president at ESPN, was a senior at Pittsfield High School when he was awarded the club's initial \$500 scholarship. He attended Emerson College and currently serves on the Emerson College Board of Trustees.

The Republican Scholarship, funded by The Republican newspaper and administered by the club, is for students within the newspaper's circulation area who are planning careers in print journalism.

The 22News Scholarship, funded by WWLP-22News and administered by the club, is for students planning careers in broadcast journalism.

The club finances two scholarships, including the Edward J. Malley Jr. Memorial Scholarship, established in memory of the former chief photographer for the Springfield Newspapers, for students planning careers in photojournalism.

This marks the 50th anniversary of the scholarship and the Club is seeking past recipients who are invited to email ntassinari@TheBigE.com. Applications are available at high school guidance offices and online at www.valleypressclub.com.

The Valley Press Club was founded in 1962 in Springfield by a group of local reporters. Two years later, club membership was opened to all communications professionals in the region and a scholarship dance was held. Each year, the Club holds educational workshops and luncheons. Since 1964, the Press Club has awarded more than \$100,000 in scholarships to local high school students planning to pursue careers in journalism. Further information about the club is available at www.valleypressclub.com.

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# Public Safety POLICE LOG

*The Agawam Police Department responded to 261 calls for service from Feb. 25 to March 3. The department made four arrests. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.*

### Thursday, Feb. 27

Evelyn Winn, 62, of 22 Michael St., Feeding Hills, was arrested on a charge of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon on a person over 60.

### Saturday, March 1

Lynn M. Pandolfi, 43, of 8 Stillbrook Lane, Agawam, was arrested on a charge of domestic assault and battery.

### Sunday, March 2

Erin A. Hanson, 35, of 420 Main St., Apt. 71, Agawam, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear.

### Monday, March 3

Donald Mason, 60, of 89 Riverview Ave., Agawam, was arrested on charges of assault and battery on a police officer, improper storage of a firearm, and resisting arrest.

# FIRE LOG

*The Agawam Fire Department responded to 60 EMS calls and the following emergency response calls for the week from Feb. 25 to March 3.*

On Feb. 25 at 8:49 a.m., the department responded to Moylan Lane for public service.

On Feb. 25 at 2:34 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for alarm system activation, no fire – unintentional.

On Feb. 25 at 7:04 p.m., the department responded to Mill Street at Tennis Road for motor vehicle accident with no injuries.

On Feb. 25 at 10:12 p.m., the department responded to Bowles Road for unintentional transmission of alarm, other.

On Feb. 26 at 12:30 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for smoke or odor removal.

On Feb. 26 at 9:36 p.m., the department responded to Karen Lynn Circle for chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue.

On Feb. 27 at 8:20 a.m., the department

responded to West Springfield station for cover assignment, standby, moveup.

On Feb. 27 at 4:36 p.m., the department responded to Elbert Road for smoke detector activation due to malfunction.

On Feb. 27 at 6:18 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for lockout.

On Feb. 27 at 9:20 p.m., the department responded to North Westfield Street for lockout.

On Feb. 28 at 9:55 a.m., the department responded to Meadow Street for vehicle accident, general cleanup.

On Feb. 28 at 2:04 p.m., the department responded to Southwick Street for motor vehicle accident with injuries.

On Feb. 28 at 4:41 p.m., the department responded to Maple Street for public service assistance, other.

On Feb. 28 at 5:17 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for smoke detector activation, no fire – unintentional.

On March 1 at 4:01 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for lockout.

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## Robinson Park students 'jump' for heart health

### HEART, from page 1

could throw a cream pie in his face. Heney then tripled down on his challenge. The die-hard New York sports fan said he would wear New England sports apparel for five days if students collected more than the \$3,500 raised last year.

Heney's students didn't simply reach their goal. They smashed it. When the money was tallied, students had collected more than \$7,400 – almost double the \$4,200 goal. So, on the last Friday in February, Heney picked up a jump rope, donned a baseball cap and goggles, and braced for the onslaught of Silly String and cream pies.

"I never would have imagined that a small school like this could raise this amount of money," said Heney, who began teaching at the school in 2010 after graduating from Springfield College. "It's a true indicator of the support we continue to receive from our families and the community."

"Joe is an awesome teacher who goes above and beyond for this event," said Kristin Styles, the AHA's youth market director for central and western Massachusetts. "Robinson Park is definitely one of our higher fundraising schools."

Last year, Agawam schools raised more than \$16,000 for the AHA. Styles said when all donations are counted for this year, it could be close to \$27,000.

Robinson Park is among 450 Massachusetts elementary and middle schools that participated in the 35th annual Jump Rope for Heart. The heart association provided Heney with resources, including posters, lesson ideas and fact sheets to help students learn about heart health.

This year's event used a duck theme, with students who donated at least five dollars receiving small duck key chains attached to a lanyard.

"They loved the duck theme," said Heney. "The kids really got into it. The more they donated, the more prizes they were eligible to receive."

#### Photos add personal touch

Jumping individually or as teams, students ask friends and family for donations.

Heney said students were encouraged to dedicate their jumping to a family member who may have had cardiovascular issues. Some students brought in pictures of those in their family who currently have or have had heart problems.

"This adds a great personal touch to our event," Heney added.

In addition to collecting money from friends and relatives locally, students also reached out using online donations.

The feedback was "tremendous," said Heney. "Family members from as far as Italy donated toward our cause."

Students who collected the most money were Donovan Salva (grade 2), \$260.35; Vincent Rodier (grade 2) and Grace Moriarty (grade 1), both collected \$200; Caroline Toto (kindergarten), \$185; Jeremiah Griffen (grade 2), \$167; and Maddie Balzano, (kindergarten), \$157.

Maddie jumped for her uncle, Joe Whalen, who is currently awaiting a heart transplant at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

"This is very special for me. My uncle has a sick heart. I'm happy for me and for my uncle."

#### School filled with pride

Principal Cynthia Palazzi said many students were reminded of loved ones hit by heart disease.

"Our school is just filled with pride that we've been able to rally around this very worthwhile cause," she said.

She added that staff at the school also contributed by holding a dress-down day and donating proceeds from a week-long, staff-run bake sale.

Heney said he jumped on the heart association event when he started at the school because cardiovascular disease – the leading cause of death in the country – is also the most preventable disease.

"The event helps educate kids that moving, eating well and staying tobacco-free can not only save their lives, it can also be fun. It's our driving message," he said.

He said being squirted with plastic string and having pies thrown in his face was noth-



Turley Publications photos by Mike Lydick

**From the left, Robinson Park Elementary School third-graders Tara Trudeau, Chloe Michalak and Kelcie Velozo squirt Silly String at physical education teacher Joe Heney after the school exceeded its fundraising goal for the American Heart Association's "Jump Rope for Heart" event.**



**Heney smiles beneath a cascade of string.**



**Robinson Park Principal Cynthia Palazzi unveils how much money students collected for the American Heart Association during the "Jump Rope for Heart" event. The amount is nearly double the school's goal of \$4,200.**

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Turley Publications photos  
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# SPORTS

## Brownies back in finals

*Set to face Westfield for crown*

Turley Publications photos by Gregory A. Scibelli  
**Goalie Chris Walles bats away an East Longmeadow shot.**



By Gregory A. Scibelli  
*Turley Publications  
Sports Correspondent*

AGAWAM — The Agawam ice hockey team is heading back to the Western Massachusetts championship game, only this time, the Brownies will be seeking the Division 3 championship.

Agawam won the 3A championship last year, finally beating South Hadley. Their recent success and outstanding depth propelled them into the Berry Division and Division 3 to play against some of Western Mass.' best competition.

Last Saturday afternoon, the No. 1 seeded Brownies punched their tickets to another final when they defeated No. 4 East Longmeadow 3-1 at Olympia Ice Center.

It was the third time the Brownies have seen the Spartans. Agawam battled East Longmeadow to two ties, 4-4 and 6-6. This time around, Agawam scored enough and played airtight defense. The

difference, coach Rich Feeley said, was nothing major.

"It was a matter of doing the things we consider important better than we had previously against East Longmeadow," said Feeley. "We have been focusing on using our forecheck to our advantage with the goal of spending as much time as possible in the other team's defensive zone. We have been able to run 10 forwards or more in a given game and that helps to be aggressive in the offensive zone."

East Longmeadow was aggressive during the first period and a half, though Agawam made the most of its earliest chances.

Seamus Curran, who was shifted to the forward line for the game. He scored seven minutes into the game, taking a ricochet off the net and past goalie Matt Gasparini.

Up 1-0, the Spartans continued to fight hard until Agawam grabbed their second goal of the game with 12:00 remaining in the second period.

Please see HOCKEY, page 13



**Brian Scoville crosses over the blue line looking to score for Agawam.**

## Injury may knock out Basile

*Wrestler hopes to compete at New Englands*

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
*Turley Publications  
Sports Correspondent*

AGAWAM — On Thanksgiving 2012, Anthony Basile was playing and having a great performance in Agawam's traditional football game against the West Springfield Terriers.

Basile, who played both defense and kicker, had already made a few kicks when he suffered a debilitating injury to his knee that ruined his entire wrestling and baseball seasons in 2013.

Basile was very competitive wrestler and had an excellent freshman year. But he sat out while Agawam sent nine wrestlers to the state tournament.

The junior made an excellent comeback last fall, helping bring

Agawam to a championship game in Division 4 football, and now this weekend, Basile will head to the New England Wrestling Championships in Providence, R.I., provided he is physically able to compete.

Basile joins senior Brennen Lipelel at the tournament.

The 145-pounder won his first Western Massachusetts Division 1 championship. He defeated Xavier Lopez by pinfall in the third round at Central High school on Feb. 15. With his first championship, Basile moved on to the state tournament two weeks ago.

Basile had a strong showing and placed third at the state meet, defeating Davey Goo of Chelmsford in the consolation round.

Last weekend, at the All-States, Basile started off facing the third

place finisher from Division III, J.T. Taylor from Norton in his opening match. It was there Basile suffered a separated shoulder.

Basile said he landed on the shoulder, and it got progressively worse through the entire tournament. But he gutted through, and was able to squeak into the New England Tournament with a sixth-place finish.

He said as of press time that he is hoping to compete this weekend, but admitted the injury could prevent that.

"I am icing my shoulder and trying to take care of myself this week," said Basile. "I am hoping to get to go."

Basile said competing in the All-State meet was an excellent experience and he was happy to

Please see BASILE, page 14

## Terrier defense stymies Brownies

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
*Turley Publications  
Sports Correspondent*

AGAWAM — It was a simple matter of who made the big shots when they needed it.

The Agawam boys basketball team dropped the quarterfinal game of the Western Massachusetts Division 1 Tournament last Friday night in the final game played in the old West Springfield High School gymnasium, 65-57.

The Brownies had a lead early in the game thanks to some quality shooting and a balanced scoring attack from five or six different players.

But West Springfield shut down the Brownies late in the second quarter and were able to take the lead just before half-time. From there, the Terriers held Agawam to six third quarter points, sending Agawam into a funk.

"They did an excellent job holding us down during the third quarter," said coach Dave Federico. "We just could not make our shots and they did."

Agawam got their scoring started when T.J. Lockwood scored on a three-pointer to take an early lead. Later, Wade Robidoux nailed two of three free throws followed by a pair of

See BROWNIES, page 14



Turley Publications photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

**Tyler Desrosiers tries to go up for a shot.**

**HOCKEY, from page 12**

riod. The goal was credited to Bobby Koziol, who had the last of two or three touches by Agawam sticks. However, the goal came off an East Longmeadow stick to give the Brownies a two-goal lead.

The Spartans fought back for a few minutes, and had a power play to give them a chance to get back in the game, but the momentum shift after Agawam killed the penalty and Agawam started to get more aggressive on offense, owning possession for the majority of the final 6:00 of the period.

The Brownies had one scary moment when an East Longmeadow shot went off goalie

Chris Walles and behind him. The puck sat just in front of the goal line behind Walles but never crossed the goal line. Agawam's defense cleared the puck away before East Longmeadow could follow the rebound.

Joe Shea scored in the third period to put the finishing touches on for Agawam.

The Brownies will face Westfield Thursday at 8:30 p.m. at Olympia Ice Center. Agawam, the winners of the Berry Division, beat Westfield 1-0 and 3-1 this season.

*Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.*



Mike Pfau makes a hard check on an East Longmeadow forward.

## SPORTS CALENDAR

### Fishing swap meet set for March 9

AGAWAM - A fishing swap meet will be held on Sunday, March 9 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Polish American Club, 139 Southwick St.

Buy, sell and trade new and used fishing and hunting gear (no guns).

The cost is a \$2 donation at the door. Kids 12 and under are free. No cost to park.

There will be raffle prizes.

Polish Club food confessions will be open with breakfast/lunch food and drinks.

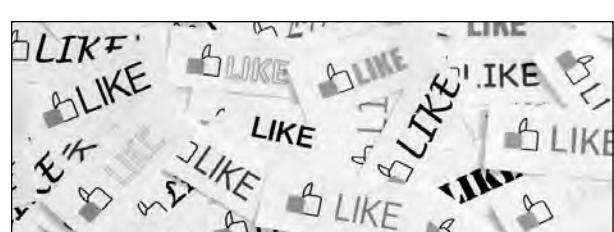
Table space and boat spaces still available. If you would like to sell your items or boat, please call Dave Dussault at 413-427-0846.

For more information, go to [getyourlinewet.com](http://getyourlinewet.com).

### Mawaga Sporting Club 25th Lunker Trout Derby

AGAWAM - The Mawaga Sporting Club will host its 25th Lukner Trout Derby on Sunday, April 27, 377 Adams St.

This event is a great way to get outside for young and old alike. The club does a great job hosting this event and provides a well stocked pond, bait, breakfast, lunch, cash, door and raffle prizes.



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\*National Newspaper Association Reader Survey

# Scherpa leads charge down mountain

*Finishes eighth at States*

By Gregory A. Scibelli

*Turley Publications*

*Sports Correspondent*

AGAWAM - The Agawam girls skiing team had an individual finish out at the near the top of the giant slalom on Feb. 25.

Jillian Scherpa, a sophomore for the Brownies, placed eighth in the state Alpine Skiing Championship at Wachusett Mountain. Scherpa's coach, who is in her first year, Ashley Kulik said the sophomore had an excellent performance in the race.

Kulik says Scherpa will only get better moving forward and has a couple more very good years in front of her.

In addition to her great performance on the giant slalom, she placed 13th on the regular slalom. Katie Martin placed 55th for the Brownies in the event.

Scherpa qualified by placing first in the individual standings for the regular season. Martin placed fifth and Jordyn Conway also qualified for the state championship.

Agawam girls won two North Division PVIAC races this season, winning the second and sixth of the eight-race regular season the teams participate in.

Based on her ranking as the PVIAC girls champion, Scherpa was also selected to represent Team Massachusetts at the Eastern High School Championships which will be

held at Attitash Mountain. Martin finished her season in a tie for fourth overall in the League finishing five of her races in the league top 10. This season, Scherpa won four races and never finished outside of the top 10 in an individual race.

Senior captain Conway completed her high school skiing career with her strongest season ever finishing 15th in the league including her personal best of ninth in week 7 for the North division.

The boys skiing team did not have any individuals place in the top, Senior Captain Mike Gonet finished his season in 11th place for the League, including four top 10 finishes while Senior Captain Mike Rossi finished his high school skiing career with his best season; Rossi finished the season with a ranking of 15th in the League. Gonet had one first place finish in the Week 7 race as he finished first in 25.66 seconds. It was one of Agawam's best races of the season as they also captured sixth, eighth, and ninth place with Joe Cecchi, Bailey Cecchi, and Ben Cassidy rounding out the top 10, respectively. Gonet also had a great appearance in the eighth race, where he finished just outside the top 10 in the giant slalom with a time of 24.43.

*Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.*

## COLLEGE NOTES

### Rackliffe named Rookie of the Year

FRAMINGHAM - Framingham State freshman forward and Feeding Hills resident Alycia Rackliffe has earned second team All-MASCAC honors and been named the 2014 Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference (MASCAC) Women's Basketball Rookie of the Year in voting conducted by the league's coaches and announced by the conference office recently.

Rackliffe, who was also named the MASCAC Volleyball Rookie of the Year in the fall after an outstanding freshman volleyball campaign, earned MASCAC Rookie of the Week honors five times during her rookie season in which she was limited to seeing action in just 14 regular season games, all during the second semester. Rackliffe averaged just shy of a double-double on the year averaging 13.6 points and 9.1 boards and also recorded 2.6 blocks per game.

She was also recently named Co-Rookie of the Week.

She averaged a double-double of 12.3 points and 12.3 rebounds while adding 3.3 blocks in a 2-1 week for the Rams. Net-

ted double-double of 12 points and 14 rebounds in the 62-53 MASCAC Tournament Semifinal win over Westfield State and nine points and 16 boards with four blocks in the 73-66 championship loss to Bridgewater State. Started week with 16 points and seven boards in the 75-53 quarterfinal victory over Worcester State.

### Kelley helps out in win over Eastern Connecticut

SPRINGFIELD - Springfield College women's lacrosse player and Agawam resident Colleen Keeley picked up four assists in an 18-1 win over Eastern Connecticut on Tuesday, Feb. 25.

### Ritter delivers for Wentworth

BOSTON - Wentworth men's volleyball freshman and Feeding Hills resident Colin Ritter had 31 assists in a 3-0 win over Lasell to go along with 45 assists, two aces, and nine digs in a 3-1 loss to Baruch, and 23 more assists and nine digs in a 3-0 loss to Springfield.



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**BROWNIES, from page 12**

from Lockwood to make it 7-4.

Cameron Cabana would tip in an offensive rebound to make it 9-4. After a West Side basket, Agawam's leading scorer Tyler Desrosiers nailed a 3-pointer to make it 12-6 Agawam.

Desrosiers would nail another 3-pointer when West Springfield pulled near even to give Agawam a five-point lead, but West Side closed the gap and trailed 21-17 at the end of the first quarter.

West Springfield continued to stay close as the second quarter progress. After another 3-pointer, Agawam had a 28-23 lead, but West Springfield's Marcus Esquelin came back with a trey to make it 28-26 Agawam.

The Terriers would close the gap to 32-30 Agawam and Andy McNulty nailed a long 3-pointer to give West Springfield a 33-32 lead with 1:48 left.

Agawam would retake the lead briefly when Talon Brown scored a pair of free throws, but a pair of treys would make give West Springfield a five-point lead. Stephen Comee nailed a short jumper to keep Agawam within three at halftime.

The Terriers came out and had a huge third quarter, and held Agawam down in the fourth just enough to secure the victory.

Federico said the Terriers did a good job guarding Desrosiers during the second half. The senior, who has scored more than 1,600 points in his career, was held to just 18 points.

Brown scored 13 and Matt Catjakis scored 10 for the Brownies.

Federico says the Brownies will be graduating a talented senior class and the team will likely go through a rebuilding year next season with so many seniors heading to college.

Agawam's season ends at 12-9.

*Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at dforbes@turley.com.*



Turley Publications photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

**Wade Robidoux makes a free throw for the Brownies.**



**Talon Brown rushes for the basket.**

**BASILE, from page 12**

share it with his friends.

"The All-State tournament was such a great experience," said Basile. "I was really happy I got to share it with two of my best friends Chris Ortega and Brennen Liebel. It was good to have my teammates there telling me to push through my injury."

Basile says he will not be playing baseball this spring and will be focusing on club wrestling and gaining weight to prepare for football this season.

Coach Armando Ramos said Basile had a banner year for the Brownies.

"Anthony had a breakthrough season," said Ramos. "He was coming off knee injury that caused him to miss the entire 2013 season. He worked his tail off to get back on the mat and compete at an elite level. He was the vocal leader of the team and has the ability to motivate and inspire his teammates. It's like having another coach on the mat."

## 'Stars Over Springfield' series continues March 7

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Science Museum's large rooftop telescope will be open for public sky gazing Friday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m. as part of the "Stars Over Springfield" observatory series. These programs are organized by the Museum and the Springfield Stars Club, and take place on the first Friday of each month from September through May. Each event features an introductory talk on topics such as space exploration, seasonal sights of the night sky, current astronomical research, or upcoming events like eclipses or comet appearances. March's topic will be "Hubble: A Quarter Century of Discovery," presented by Paul Cardone.

Stars Over Springfield programs are best suited for families with children ages 8 and older, however younger children are also welcome. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children 17 and under. These programs are held rain or shine. If it is cloudy, a planetarium show will be presented in place of telescope viewing.

The Springfield Science Museum is located on the Quadrangle at 21 Edwards St. in downtown Springfield. Secure, free onsite parking is available. For information about astronomy programs at the museum, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 318.

## Legal Notices

### AGAWAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT February 19, 2014

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at the Agawam Public Library Conference Room, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA on **Monday, March 24, 2014 at 6:30PM** for all parties interested in the appeal of Paula Sullivan, who is appealing a decision of the Agawam Building Inspector as allowed in Section 2, Paragraph C of the town of Agawam's "Adopted Charter" and MGL CH. 40A regarding parking at the premises identified as 1744 Main Street.

**Doreen Prouty** Chairperson  
Agawam Board of Appeals  
3/6,3/13/14

### Town of Agawam LEGAL AD

The Town of Agawam is accepting proposals for the maintenance of the Agawam portion of the Connecticut River Walk and Bikeway and Pynchon Point Park parking lot landscaping for calendar

year 2014. The path is 1.75 miles long and runs along the Connecticut River on the east side of River Road. Pynchon Point Park is located at the north end of River Road. The successful bidder shall be required to execute a contract with the Town of Agawam. For a copy of the Request for Proposals and contract, please contact the Agawam Planning Office at 786-0400, extension 8738. Proposals shall be submitted to the Agawam Planning Office, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001, att: Deborah S. Dachos, by April 1, 2014.

**PER ORDER OF:  
Deborah S. Dachos,**  
Director  
Office of Planning &  
Community Development  
3/6,3/13/14

### LEGAL AD AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on **Thursday, March 13, 2014 at 6:30 PM** at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this

meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of MassDOT for herbicide application on Route 57.

**By Order of Henry A.  
Kozloski, Chairman  
Agawam Conservation  
Commission**

3/6/14

### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT Probate & Family Court Dept.

**HAMPDEN Div.**

**HD14E0009PP**

**To Rose Maruca,  
Anthony Liquori, Beverly  
Rondinelli, and Susan  
Gensheimer,** all of Agawam;  
**Lena Peloquin** of West  
Springfield; **Cynthia Bryden**  
of Feeding Hills; **Genevieve  
Patrie** and **Anthony Basile**,  
both of East Longmeadow; **Bonnie Lee Gebbie** and  
**Peter Baruffaldi**, both of  
Chicopee, all in the County  
of Hampden; **Thomas  
Liquori** of Boca Raton, in  
the State of Florida; **John  
Krawiec** of New York, in  
the State of New York and to all  
other persons interested.

A petition has been presented to said Court by **Ann  
Marie D'Arco** of said East  
Longmeadow, representing  
that she holds as tenant in  
common an undivided part  
or share of land lying in  
Feeding Hills, in the County  
of Hampden, setting forth  
that she desires that all of  
said land may be sold at  
public sale and praying that  
partition may be made of all the  
land aforesaid according to  
law, and to that end that a  
commissioner be appointed  
to make such partition and  
be ordered to make sale and  
conveyance of all, or any  
part of said land which the  
Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at

private sale or public auction,  
and be ordered to distribute  
the net proceeds thereof.

If you desire to object  
thereto you or your attorney  
should file a written appearance  
in said Court at Springfield  
before ten o'clock in the  
forenoon on the eleventh day  
of April 2014, the return day  
of this citation.

**Witness, ANNE M.  
GEOFFRION** Esquire, First  
Justice of said Court, this  
twenty-sixth day of February  
2014

**Suzanne T. Seguin,**  
Register of Probate &  
Family Court  
3/6,3/13,3/20/14

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## HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to [klanier@turley.com](mailto:klanier@turley.com). Karen Lanier processes all legals for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x271.

Turley Publications, Inc. publishes 15 weekly newspapers throughout Western Massachusetts. Visit [www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com) for more information.

# Obituaries & Church News

## St. John's Travelers to host D.C. trip

The St. John's Travelers will host a four-day Washington, D.C., trip March 28-31 which is open to the public. Cost is \$529 per person, double occupancy; \$519 per person, triple occupancy; and \$799, single occupancy.

The package includes round-trip deluxe motor coach, three nights at the Holiday Inn in Arlington, Va., buffet breakfast at the hotel, and two plated dinners. The trip will also include a guided tour of Washington, D.C., with time to visit all the memorials, an

evening tour of the monument, free time at the Smithsonian Institute, a tour of Arlington National Cemetery as well as the JFK gravesite and changing of the guard, guided tour of Annapolis on the return trip, all meals, hotel taxes, and driver gratuities.

The bus will depart St. John's Church, 833 Main St., Agawam March 28 at 7 a.m. and will return home March 31 at approximately 9 p.m. To reserve a seat, call Emile Coté at (413) 335-9440.

## CHURCH DIRECTOR

### AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

745 Main St., Agawam  
786-7111  
Interim Pastor: Rev. Tom Howells  
Agawam1@verizon.net  
www.agawamcongregationalchurch.com

SUNDAY SERVICES at 10 a.m.  
Communion on the first Sunday of the month. Church school is in session and fellowship coffee hour follows the service.  
"A place to call home ~ A people to call family"

### AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

459 Mill St., Feeding Hills  
413-786-4174  
Pastor: Ken Blanchard  
email agawamumc@gmail.com  
agawamworship.org

### WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday Worship 10 a.m.  
Communion on the first and third Sunday of the month. Coffee and fellowship hour immediately after worship. Handicap accessible at front entrance.  
Worship At Country Estates Nursing Home: 2nd and 5th Thursdays each month at 11 a.m.  
AUMC cooks and serves dinner for the Samaritan Innhomeless shelter on the second Saturday of the month.

### BETHANY ASSEMBLY OF GOD

580 Main St., Agawam  
(413) 789-2930  
www.bethany-ag.org  
Senior Pastor: Rev. Richard E. Adams

### WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.  
Celebration of Praise: Sunday 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Mid-Week Service (Family Night): 7 p.m.  
Sunday Evening Contemporary Service: 6 p.m.

### CHURCH OF REDEMPTION

50 Maple St., Agawam  
(413) 304-2313  
churchofredeemptionministries.org

### WORSHIP SERVICES

Summer Schedule  
Sunday Service at 10 a.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study at 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday school for children and nursery for younger children

### FAITH BIBLE CHURCH

370 Shoemaker Lane  
Agawam  
(413) 786-1681  
www.jessussaves.7@comcast.com  
Website: www.faithbible-church.org  
Pastor: Rick Donofrio

### SERVICES

Sunday School for all ages 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday Night Prayer  
Meeting and Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

### FEEDING HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC

"An Open and Affirming Congregation."  
21 N. Westfield St., Feeding Hills  
P.O. Box 264  
(413) 786-5061  
fhuccoffice@verizon.net  
Pastor: The Rev. Robert C. Donaldson

### SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Church School 9 a.m.  
Worship Service 10 a.m.  
Infant and child care provided.  
Handicap accessible.

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

760 Main St., Agawam  
Agawambc@localnet.com  
www.firstbaptistagawam.org

SUNDAY SERVICES  
Worship 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School (grades K - 5)  
following Children's Message until 10:45  
Youth Study time (grades 6+)  
following sermon until 10:45  
Coffee & Conversation following  
worship every Sunday

### HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH

152 South Westfield St.  
Feeding Hills  
789-2026

### SUNDAY SERVICES

Men's & Women's Bible Study Groups and  
Children's Sunday School Worship Service  
at 10 a.m. Children's Church for age 3 to  
high school takes place after the service.  
Nursery available for younger children. A  
time for fellowship after the service.

### MARANATHA BAPTIST CHURCH

522 Springfield St., Feeding Hills  
Feeding Hills, MA  
478-9484  
David L. Short, Pastor

Sunday Family Bible Study Hour, 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Service, 11 a.m.  
Sunday Night Service, 6 p.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer, 7 p.m.

### SACRED HEART CHURCH

1103 Springfield St., Feeding Hills  
(413) 786-8200  
www.SacredHeartFeedingHills.org  
Fr. Steven Amo

### WEEKLY SERVICES

Lord's Day Masses: Saturday, 4 p.m.;  
Sunday, 7:15 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m.  
Confessions: Saturdays, 3:15 p.m.  
Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday,  
Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.  
Special Devotions: Perpetual Novena to  
the Sacred Heart following the Friday 9  
a.m. Mass

### ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills  
786-6133  
saintdavids@comcast.net.  
www.stdavidsagawam.org

### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday, 8 a.m. & 10 a.m. - Holy Eucharist

### ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

823 Main St., Agawam  
786-8105  
info@stjohnnevangelistchurch.org.  
www.stjohagawam.org

### SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturdays: 4 p.m. & 6 p.m. (Labor Day to  
Memorial Day)  
Saturdays: 5 p.m. (Memorial Day to Labor  
Day)  
Sundays: 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.  
Reconciliation: Saturdays, 3:15 p.m.-3:45 p.m.  
Weekdays - Mon., Tues., Wed. & Fri., 8 a.m.  
Thursday - Communion Service

## DEATH NOTICES & SERVICES

### Cortese, Thomas W.

Died Feb. 25, 2014  
Funeral March 1, 2014  
Colonial Forastiere  
Funeral Home  
Agawam

**Sands, David L.**  
Died Feb. 19, 2014  
Services: No services  
listed  
El Camino Memorial

### Renaud, Albert A.

Died Feb. 25, 2014  
Funeral March 1, 2014  
Agawam Funeral  
Home

**Zych, Stephanie M.**  
Died Feb. 20, 2014  
Funeral Feb. 28, 2014  
Agawam Funeral  
Home

### Agawam Advertiser News Obituary Policy

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$50, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

**Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

### David L. Sands

David L. Sands passed away peacefully in his sleep Feb. 19, 2014. David was born Nov. 3, 1929, in West Springfield. He lived and worked in Agawam and Springfield until 1960 when he and his family moved to San Diego, Calif., where he resided and raised his family. David worked in the container packaging industry for nearly 50 years. He also worked evenings and weekends for Ace Park-

ing for 41 years, working numerous events at Qualcomm Stadium, The Sports Arena and Petco Park when local teams were in town.

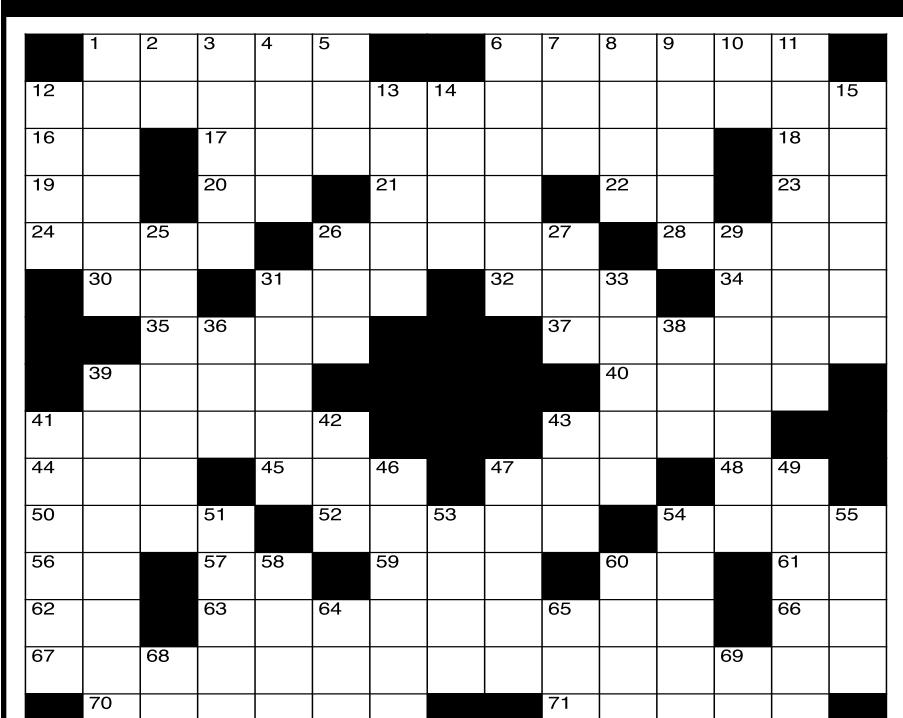
David's beloved wife of 45 years, Mary, preceded him in death. He is survived by his brother Raoul L. Sands of Agawam; sons David and James of La Mesa, Calif.; grandchildren Robert, Michelle, Carrie, David, Mary and Annalisa; great-grandchildren Courtney, Trinity and Patricia; and great-great granddaughter Hailey.

## Lenten discussion series open to the public

During the Lenten season, all are welcome to join in weekly faith formation discussions at St. John the Evangelist Church, 833 Main St. in Agawam. The series continues Thursday, March 13, at 7 p.m. in the parish hall.

The topic is, "The Devil and Fallen Angels."

For more information, email Sal Circosta at RE@stjohnagawam.org or call (413) 786-8105. This event is free and open to the public.



### CLUES ACROSS

1. Plural of eyrir	39. Frost	CLUES DOWN	33. Diamond weight unit
6. Concord	40. Crucifix	2. Boutros' group	36. Possesses
12. Photographer	41. Bodily faculties	3. Go over	38. Note
16. Atomic #18	43. Seladang	4. Be among	39. About heraldry
17. Tobacco cylinder	44. Denotes three	5. Cloth scrap	41. Hair filament
18. Of I	45. Imbibe slowly	6. Clerks	42. Title of respect
19. 1/10 meter (abbr.)	47. What's left	7. Vacuum tube	43. Hair product
20. In the year of Our Lord	48. Liberal degree	8. Actress Blanchett	46. Colas
21. Belittle	50. Competition	9. Removes the lid	47. Capital of Huila, Colombia
22. 1/2 of an em	52. Confederate	10. Atomic #45	49. More
23. Equally	54. 7th Hindu month	11. Peremptorily	diaphanous
24. Cornmeal mush (British)	56. Senator Franklin	12. Dishonorable men	51. Eliminate
26. Desires	57. "Crying" singer's initials	13. Spanish appetizers	53. Change to a vapor
28. Of sound mind	59. Taro root dish	14. Algerian gulf & port	54. Ancient temple sanctums
30. 1st moon man's initials	60. Bahrain dinar	15. Sets again	55. Pesters
31. Public broadcasting	61. Sun god	16. About Freemason	58. Off-Broadway award
32. Bodily cavity	62. 39th state	66. Immunoglobulin (abbr.)	60. Light Russian pancake
34. Insecticide	63. In a harmful way	67. Differences	27. Not happy
35. County in China	66. Snarl, growl (var. sp.)	70. Moves slowly	29. Accumulates on the surface
37. Platforms	71. Peels an apple	71. Snarl, growl (var. sp.)	31. Jr.'s father
			32. Reconciles
			33. Diamond weight unit
			34. Insecticide
			35. County in China
			36. Possesses
			37. Platforms
			38. Note
			39. About heraldry
			40. Atomic #45
			41. Hair filament
			42. Title of respect
			43. Hair product
			44. Immunoglobulin (abbr.)
			45. Snarl, growl (var. sp.)
			46. Colas
			47. Capital of Huila, Colombia
			48. Bahrain dinar
			49. More
			50. Competition
			51. Eliminates
			52. Confederate
			53. Change to a vapor
			54. Ancient temple sanctums
			55. Pestles
			56. Senator Franklin
			57. Snarl, growl (var. sp.)
			58. Off-Broadway award
			59. Taro root dish
			60. Light Russian pancake
			61. Sun god
			62. 39th state
			63. In a harmful way
			64. Bahrain dinar
			65. Work unit
			66. Immunoglobulin (abbr.)
			67. Differences
			68. Jr.'s father
			69. Atomic #77

Answers on page 9

Buzzin' from Town to Town



# Classifieds

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**LUDLOW QUIET TOWNHOUSE** duplex, 2 BR, gas heat, new deck, appliances, owner occupied \$975. No pets. First, last, security. (413)583-2225

## For Rent

**AGAWAM TOWNSHOUSE APT -** Newly renovated 2 bedrooms, living room, kitchen/dining area, 1-1/2 baths, stove, refrigerator & dishwasher. Quiet dead-end street, great view, \$825.00 monthly, utilities not included, sorry no pets/ smokers. Available March 1st, first, last & security required. Call 413-364-4716 leave message.



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**BELCHERTOWN 1ST FL**, 4 rm, all utilities furnished, newly decorated, central/air, heat, vacuum. Ample parking. Available Immediately. Call (413)323-5730

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FRONT STREET. ONE BR,** kitchen, livingroom, stove, refrigerator, heat/ HW, move-in condition, off-street parking. No Pets. First, last, references \$685 (413)598-0341.

## For Rent

**PALMER THREE RIVERS.** Country Manor apartments, 1 bdrm \$630, 2 bdrm, \$730 month. All units renov. w/disposal, dishwashers, microwave, elec. range, carpets. Parking, fishing and playground. Cats okay. Call (413)283-9472.

**PALMER LG. STUDIO.** Laundry on premises, off-street parking, w/w carpeting, quiet, convenient location. (413)454-1201.

**WARE- 2 BR** \$700 plus utilities, Hardwood floors, new kitchen, w/d hook-up, storage. No smoking/pets. Credit check, references. Call for details (413)320-5784

**WEST SPRINGFIELD,** 3 room apartment in private home \$750, includes heat & utilities. No smokers, no pets, off-street parking avail., has own entrance. 1st, last, security (413)733-9051

## Vacation Rentals

**OLD ORCHARD BEACH** 2 BR, 2 baths, sofa bed, sleeps 6, enclosed porch with dining. Walk to beach. Close to amusements. No smoking, no pets. Call (508)347-9804. \$1,500/wk

**WARM WEATHER IS** year round in Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. \$3500. Email: carolacton@aol.com for more information.

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# Out & About

**OUR CALENDAR SECTION** is intended to promote "free" events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at [aan@turley.com](mailto:aan@turley.com), fax to 786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

## March 7

THE 10TH SEASON OF THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL'S popular Applause Series continues with "The Life, Times, and Music of Louie Armstrong" at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center. Members of Dixieland Stomp David Neill, Jason Bouchard, David Bilodeau, Ben Falkoff, Ed Mari, and Gene Bartley. This and all Applause Series events are free and open to the public. For more information, visit [www.agawamcc.org](http://www.agawamcc.org).

## Saturday, March 8

ALICE PLOUCHARD STELZER, author of "Female Adventurers," will visit the Agawam Public Library at 2 p.m. The public is invited to take part in celebrating Women's History Month with Stelzer as she reads from and discusses her book. To register, call the library at 789-1550 ext. 4 or visit [www.agawamlibrary.org](http://www.agawamlibrary.org). Books will be available for purchase and signing.

THE HOLYOKE MERRY-GO-ROUND is open and ready for families to stop in and beat the winter blues. It is currently open Saturdays and Sundays from noon-4 p.m. with rides only \$2 each. Call (413) 538-9838 or visit [www.holyokemerrygoround.org](http://www.holyokemerrygoround.org) for more information.

## Sunday, March 9

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD COIN CLUB will meet at 7 p.m. in the Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Elm St., West Springfield. The meeting will include a discussion on a featured topic, business matters and special events. A small auction will take place and refreshments will be available. Guests welcome. For more information, call Peter Setian at 596-9871

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS will host a "mini tour" at 1 p.m., led by Kate Belhumeur, D'Amour Museum of Fine Arts, highlighting "How the Hudson River School Landscape Artists captured the American Soul during the 19th Century." The tour is free with museum admission and secure, free on-site parking is available.

## Tuesday, March 11

SHAKESPEARE & CO., OUT OF LENOX returns to Agawam High School once again, courtesy of the Agawam Cultural Council, to perform an edited version of "Romeo and Juliet" at 10 a.m., with doors open to the public at 9:30 a.m. For reservations, which are required, or more information, contact Andrea LaPlace, chairperson of the "Agawam Cultural Council in the Schools" program, at (413) 786-6753 or [andrealaplace@comcast.net](mailto:andrealaplace@comcast.net). It is free and open to the public

ADULT DROP-IN YOGA is offered at the Agawam Public Library at 7 p.m. It is



Turley Publications courtesy photo

**Dr. Susan Plourde, DMD, sponsored a "Dental Health Day" for kindergarteners at the James Clark School recently. Donna Augustine, RDH, with Canine the puppet, demonstrated good oral hygiene and healthy nutrition, and the students watched a video on Dudley's first dental appointment.**

a beginner's class and open to adults 18 and over. Bring a yoga mat or blanket. No registration needed.

THE AGAWAM SENIOR CENTER will host a free movie ("The Butler") at 12:30 p.m. The public is welcome.

ADULT DROP-IN SIT AND KNIT meets every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library. No registration needed.

## Wednesday, March 12

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam, offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper at a cost of \$7 for adults, \$4 for children. The public is welcome.

## Thursday, March 13

THE AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH FAMILY PLAYGROUP, which takes place at the church at 745 Main St., Agawam, is open to children birth through age 5 with a parent or caregiver, and meets weekly on Thursdays from 9:30 to 11 a.m. It includes crafts, stories, songs, free play and more. For more information, call 786-7111 or email [jbrownacc@verizon.net](mailto:jbrownacc@verizon.net).

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present "Stories of a Fiddler" featuring Sarah Michel ("Sarah The Fiddler"), at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

## UPCOMING AND ONGOING

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS will hold a blood drive Saturday, March 15, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. To make an appoint-

ment to donate blood, call (800) 733-2767 or visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

THE TUESDAY MORNING MUSIC CONCERT to be held March 18 at 10:30 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church in Springfield will feature guest artists David McFerrin on baritone and Clifton J. Noble, Jr., on piano. Free refreshments provided. For more information, contact Yolanda Martin, 25 Valentine St., Springfield, or John Karalekas, TMMC president, Trinity United Methodist Church, 361 Sumner Ave., Springfield 01138.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS will hold a blood drive Thursday, March 20, from 1 to 6 p.m. at OMG, Inc., 153 Bowles Road, Agawam. To make an appointment to donate blood, call (800) 733-2767 or visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR CAMPER may be worth more as a donation than a trade-in. Call the Massachusetts Association for the Blind at (888) 613-2777 for more information. Towing is free. All donations are tax deductible.

## Colon cancer topic of upcoming presentation

The public is invited to St. John's Church, located on Main Street in Agawam, Wednesday, March 19, at 6:30 p.m. for a presentation by Dr. David R. Kalman, board certified local gastroenterologist and president of Springfield Medical Associates in Springfield.

Kalman will discuss colon cancer awareness and other diseases of the GI tract. Topics of discussion will include how easy it is to be screened for this life-saving procedure.

The event is free and refreshments will be served.

## News, upcoming events at Italian Cultural Center

### Lenten Fish Dinner

The Italian Cultural Center of Western Mass., Inc. (ICC), located at 56 Margaret St., Springfield, will sponsor a Lenten fish dinner Friday, March 28, at 6 p.m. Only 100 tickets will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis and must be purchased in advance. Tickets are \$15 for ICC members, \$18 for non-members and are available by calling Nancy at (413) 827-9350. Deadline for purchasing tickets is March 21. The public is welcome.

### Gnocchi-Making Class

The ICC will hold a gnocchi-making class Saturday, April 12, from 1-3 p.m. An instructor, supplies and space will be provided for adults and children. Just bring an apron and take home what you make. Space is limited. Seats will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Call Stephanie at (860) 305-1175 or email [CookingwICC@comcast.net](mailto:CookingwICC@comcast.net) to request a registration form and to check seating availability. Payment must be received by April 4 to guarantee a seat. Mail name, address and phone number along with the registration fee of \$20 for ICC members, \$15 for children of members 12 years and younger, \$25 per adult non-member, and \$20 for children of non-members 12 years and younger to Italian Cultural Center of Western Massachusetts, Inc., Attn: Gnocchi-Making, 56 Margaret St, Springfield, MA 01105.

### Scholarship banquet

The ICC will host its Annual Scholarship Banquet May 13 at 6 p.m. at St. Anne Country Club, 781 Shoemaker Lane, Feeding Hills. This event is open to members and non-members. Reservations are required. The cost is \$35 per person. Call Sandi Vella at (413) 736-8502 to make your reservation. Deadline for reservations is May 5.



## Capture the Moment

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